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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,034	08/18/2004	Ping Li	2055.074	5033
23405 7590 03/31/2009 HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESTI PC 5 COLUMBIA CIRCLE ALBANY, NY 12203				
EXAMINER KIM, WESLEY LEO				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2617				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/31/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/711,034

Applicant(s)

LI ET AL.

Examiner

WESLEY L. KIM

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to Amendments filed 1/9/09.
 - Claims 1 and 3 are currently amended.
 - Claims 1-8 are pending in the current Office Action.
 - This Action is made FINAL. Applicant has amended the Independent Claims 1 and 3 to narrow the scope of the claims with the added limitation of "arrival". In response to the amendment, the examiner has provided a new grounds of rejection even though the same prior art references are used as in the previous office action. The new grounds of rejection is introduced here:
 - Limitation (e) in claims 1 and 3 was previously considered to be deficient from the Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) and the Nakamura reference was introduced to overcome the deficiency, however the limitation (e) is now readdressed and is taught by the Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 1/9/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
 - Applicant argues that the AAPA cannot be modified with Nakamura since the AAPA is directed towards teachings of IDMA while the teachings of Nakamura directed towards CDMA.

The examiner respectfully disagrees. From the Applicants Admitted Prior Art "Interleave-Division Multiple-Access (IDMA) communications" it is clear that IDMA can be regarded as a special form of CDMA. See First page, second column, first full paragraph of "Interleave-Division Multiple-Access (IDMA) communications". If IDMA is a special form of CDMA, it is obvious that IDMA inherits the teachings of CDMA with further additions and/or modifications to provide the IDMA system. Therefore the combination of the references which teach concepts of CDMA systems into an IDMA system would be obvious to a skilled artisan.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants Admitted Prior Art (10/711034) in view of Nakamura et al (US 5920554).

Regarding Claims 1, 3, and 6, 8, Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) teaches (a) assigning a code to each user, where the said code can be the same or different for different users (Par.5) and of the same or different rates for different users (Par.23, a coded sequence is produced for m users and it is well known in the art that rates can be the same or different for different users) and; (b) encoding a source data sequence to create a coded source data sequence for each user using

an encoder assigned to that user (Par.19); (c) interleaving each coded source data sequence so as to modify an order of said coded source data sequence to produce an interleaved data sequence, wherein interleaved data sequences from different users are distinguished by using different interleaving schemes (Par.20 and 21), (e) transmitting an IDMA signal comprising the interleaved data sequence for each user (Par.24-26, the signals of Par.24 are transmitted as can be seen from Par.25-26) however Applicants Admitted Prior Art **is silent on** (d) assigning a pre-calculated arrival power level to each user, wherein the power level is different for at least some users using the pre-calculated arrival power level for that user.

Nakamura teaches that (d) assigning a pre-calculated power level to each user (Col.5:lines 62-67) and Applicants Admitted Art further teaches that the arrival power level can be different for at least some users (Par.11:lines 6-9, equal and unequal power upon arrival at the receiver). By the combination of AAPA and Nakamura it is obvious that a pre-calculated arrival power level can be assigned to each user where the user will transmit the IDMA signal using the assigned pre-determined arrival power level, wherein the power level is different for at least some users.

To one of ordinary skill in the art it would have been obvious to modify Applicants Admitted Prior Art with Nakamura to provide a method where radio communication may be performed by using codes with unequal power allocation so that multi-users may be addressed to maintain a high level of performance even in multi-path environments.

Regarding Claims 2 and 4, Applicants Admitted Prior Art further teaches wherein at least one of the codes comprises at least one of a hybrid form of narrow sense code, a repeat code and a spreading operation (Par.9).

5. Claims 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants Admitted Prior Art (10/711034) and Nakamura et al (US 5920554) in further view of Sumiya et al (US 5319672).

Regarding Claims 5 and 7, Applicants Admitted Prior Art and Nakamura teach all the limitations as recited in claim 3, however the combination **does not expressly teach** the assigned codes are the same for at least some of the users.

Sumiya teaches that the assigned codes are the same for at least some of the users (Col.5:50-51).

To one of ordinary skill in the art, it would have been obvious to modify Applicants Admitted Prior Art and Nakamura with Sumiya such that the assigned codes are the same for at least some of the users to provide radio communications by spreading the digital information to the receiving ends.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is

filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WESLEY L. KIM whose telephone number is (571)272-7867. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Wesley L Kim/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617